

#54

Attorney Docket: 817/49649CO
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MARK ROSS ET AL.

Serial No.: TO BE ASSIGNED

Group Art Unit:

Filed: CONCURRENT HEREWITH

Examiner:

Title: CLAY/ORGANIC CHEMICAL COMPOSITIONS USEFUL AS
ADDITIVES TO POLYMER, PLASTIC AND RESIN MATRICES
TO PRODUCE NANOCOMPOSITES AND NANOCOMPOSITES
CONTAINING SUCH COMPOSITIONS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination, please
amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend Claims 2-6 as follows:

AI --2. (Amended) The rheological additive of Claim 17, wherein one or
more of the smectite clays is selected from the group consisting of bentonite and
hectorite.